

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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R 162330Z AUG 73

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9075

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2890

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNSC XF

SUBJ: ISRAELI REACTION TO UNSC CONDEMNATION

1. AMB TEKOAH CALLED ON AMB SCALI SHORTLY AFTER END OF DEBATE IN SC AUG 15. HE TOLD SCALI AT SOME LENGTH THAT ISRAEL FELT US HAD ERRED; THAT VETO OF RES WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER; AND THAT US COULD HAVE HELD OUT SUCCESSFULLY FOR Milder RES NOT INCLUDING CONDEMNATION, WARNING, OR REFERENCE TO ICAO, AND THEN COULD HAVE VETOED IF IT FAILED.

2. SCALI LISTENED PATIENTLY TO THIS DISSERTATION. THEN, INVOKING SPIRIT OF FRANKNESS THAT HAD ALWAYS PROPERLY CHARACTERIZED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TWO CLOSE ALLIES, HE TOLD TEKOAH SHARPLY HIS INFO INCORRECT. US HAD PUSHED ITS ASSETS TO LIMIT IN PRESSURING LEBANESE TO FIGHT OFF EFFORTS OF NON-ALIGNED AND EXTREMISTS TO WORSEN RES. TEKOAH SHOULD KNOW, HE SAID, THAT FURTHER PRESSURE ON LEBANON WOULD HAVE RESULTED IN RESURFACING OF EXTREME DRAFT OFFERED BY NON-ALIGNED, AND SINCE TEKOAH NOT AT THESE SESSIONS, TEKOAH COULD NOT KNOW HOW HARD SCALI HAD PRESSED ON THESE POINTS. IN FACE THESE REMARKS, TEKOAH IMMEDIATELY SOFTENED TONE AND DID NOT REITERATE VIEW THAT US COULD HAVE EXTRACTED MORE FROM SITUATION.

3. SCALI WENT ON TO CHIDE TEKOAH FOR HAVING MISINFORMED HIM THAT THERE NO PRECEDENT FOR US CONDEMNATION OF ISRAEL (AS DISTINCT FROM ACTIONS OF ISRAEL). HE REMINDED TEKOAH OF CONFIDENTIAL

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SC RES 262 OF DEC 31, 1968. CHARACTERISTICALLY, TEKOAH DID NOT APOLOGIZE, BUT ARGUED PRECEDENT NOT SIGNIFICANT BECAUSE IT HAD OCCURRED DURING INCUMBENCY OF US PERMREP WIGGINS (WHOSE SPEECHES IN UN "SOUNDED LIKE ARAB SPEECHES").

US-ISRAELI RELATIONS FAR LESS INTIMATE AT THAT TIME, TEKOAH SAID.

4. SCALI THEN PUT US TODAY'S "YES" VOTE IN CONTEXT OF FIRM US POSITION AGAINST TERRORISM. HE SAID FACTS OF ISRAELI ACTION UNDISPUTED, THAT THIS ACTION UNACCEPTABLE, AND REACTION SHOULD HAVE BEEN EXPECTED BY GOI. DEFIANT STATEMENTS BY ISRAELI LEADERS IN WAKE OF INCIDENT HAD NOT MADE POSITION EASIER FOR US ALLY.

5. COMMENT: I BELIEVE THIS KIND OF NEEDED FRANK TALK HAS STRENGTHENED RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM, TEKOAH MUST VIEW ME AS STAUNCH FRIEND BUT ONE UNWILLING BE PUSHED AROUND. HE BUBBLING WITH GOODWILL AS HE LEFT.
SCALI

CONFIDENTIAL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 10 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, MILITARY CAPABILITIES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973USUNN02890
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750008-2143
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730869/abqcelaz.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: willialc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05-Oct-2001 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <23-Oct-2001 by willialc>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISRAELI REACTION TO UNSC CONDEMNATION
TAGS: PFOR, US, XF, IS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005